## REMARKS

Some obvious typographical errors in the claims have been corrected.

Claims 27 and 28 make reference to the term alkanediyl which is the term approved IUPAC for a group derived from an alkane by removal of two hydrogen atoms. A term which is more commonly used but which in fact is non-approved, is alkylene. The applicants believe the approved term is more appropriate since alkylene may refer to a molecule rather than a radical group. In light of this explanation, it is respectfully submitted that the objection to these claims should be withdrawn.

Claims 24 and 42 have been amended to include the feature of claim 25, i.e. that the active compound is an oligo- or poly-nucleotide. The other independent claim, number 46, already recites this feature.

In light of this change, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 24 through 58 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Florence should be withdrawn.

The present application claims a complex of an anionic active compound and a cationic polymer which has a dendritic core. A feature of the anionic active compound is that it is an oligo- or poly-nucleotide. The combination of the complex with a carrier, including pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, and a method in which the complex administered to an animal are also claimed. Further claimed is an *in vitro* method in which a cell culture is transfected by the complex and then grown.

The Florence reference relates to polypeptide compounds which have dendritically linked units formed from amino acids having reactive groups in their side chains. As the Examiner has recognized, this disclosure does not teach that cationic groups in a range of at least 50% should be present in at least one dendron.

One of the features of the present invention which is not taught or suggested by the reference is the employment of an anionic active compound which is an oligo- or poly-nucleotide. Rather than teach or suggest this feature, the reference states that dendrimers have "potential" to be used as carriers for the delivery of bioactive molecules (column 11, lines 21-22). At the bottom of column 6, the reference teaches that such bioactive molecules can be "peptide antigens, drug moieties, and targeting moieties which can be antibodies, sugar groups, sugar molecules, polyethylene glycol molecules or ionic moieties." The reference does not teach oligo- or poly-nucleotide actives and there is nothing which would suggest them to one skilled in the art. Further, the reference refers to bioactive compounds which are covalently conjugated to the dendritic compound whereas the present invention is concerned with combinations of actives and dendrenic compounds where electrostatic attraction between the cationic polymer and the anionic active takes place.

Withdrawal of the prior art rejection and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Dated: November 23, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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